

Internal

(Task #2384)

Bond Release Findings

Mine Name: FirePit #1-4
Operator: Western Hills (Ken Brown)
288 West Center
Kanab, UT 84011

I.D. No.: S/053/0034
Mineral Ownership: BLM
Surface Ownership: BLM
Permit Term: 1988

Disturbed Area: 5 Acres

Regraded: 5 acres

Reseeded: 5 acres

Acres Bonded: 5 acres

Acres Proposed for Full Release: 5 acres

Acres Released: 5 acres

Surety

There is no surety being held for this site.

Setting and Premining Environment

*This site is located Between LaVerkin and Toquerville, Utah, about 1 mile west of the highway. The disturbed area is near the top of the ridge, within a desert shrub community. Soils in the area are sandy and sparse.-
Premining land use is limited grazing and wildlife.*

Operations

*This operation was apparently removing red sandstone (there has been very little material moved from this site).
There were no facilities at the site, and there has not been any activity for several years.*

Reclamation

Reclamation of the site consisted of minor regrading and seeding. There are no pits or highwalls remaining on site. The overall regrading blends in with the surrounding topography. The surface was left in a roughened condition to aid in erosion control and vegetation establishment. .

Mine Engineering

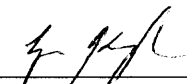
Public Safety: There are no steep slopes, highwalls or pits remaining on the area. It has been reclaimed to approximate original contour. Deleterious materials were not used or exposed by mining operations, and do not exist on the site. there were no erosional concerns noted during the site inspection on April 10, 2008.

Revegetation

Vegetation has established on the regraded areas, and includes a diverse mix (mostly shrubs) of shrubs, grasses and forbs. There were no noxious weeds observed. Vegetation ground cover of the surrounding area is 42% (the reclamation success standard would be 29.4%. Ground cover of the reclaimed area was measured at 33%. This exceeds the success criteria.

Recommendation

As per the operator request to release this site, the Inspection of April 10, 2008 found that the reclamation success criteria has been achieved. The Division should release this site. On May 21, 2008, the BLM concurred (via email) with this action.



Permit Lead

May 22, 2008

Date

Lynn Kunzler - Re: Firepit Release

From: <Russell_Schreiner@blm.gov>
To: "Lynn Kunzler" <lynnkunzler@utah.gov>
Date: 05/21/2008 1:25 PM
Subject: Re: Firepit Release
Attachments: Insp-04102008.doc; bond release findings-05162008.doc

Lynn

I have no problem closing the file - I will do a final inspection for our records and if no changes are present, I will close the file.

"Lynn Kunzler" <lynnkunzler@utah.gov>

To <Russell_Schreiner@BLM.gov>

cc

05/20/2008 10:30 AM

Subject Firepit Release

attached are the inspection memo and draft bond release findings for this site. The Division received a request from the operator to close this file.

If you concur with this action, please respond to the email.

Thank you.